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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/620,130	07/15/2003	Jean-Claude Dufourd	1241-03	7856

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EXAMINER	
ALI, MOHAMMAD	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2166	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/13/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/620,130	DUFOURD ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mohammad Ali	2166	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *22 January 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *15-30* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *1-14* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *15-30* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 15-30 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Caims 1-14 have been cancelled. There is a typo at page 11, applicant's argue that claims 1-30 are allowable, it should have been 15-30.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 15-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haskell et al. ('Haskell' hereinafter), USPGPUB 2004/0054965 in view of Choong Seng Boon ('Boon' hereinafter), USP, 6,665,445.

With respect to claim 15,

Haskell teaches a method for managing interactions between at least one peripheral command device and at least one multimedia application exploiting the standard MPEG-4 for displaying a scene comprising MPEG-4 objects, said peripheral command device delivering digital signals of user interactions as a function of actions of one or more users on said scene (see paras. 0033, 0037) comprising:

constructing a first digital sequence having the form of a BIFS node (Binary Form for Scenes in accordance with the standard MPEG-4) (see para. 0070, Haskell), said node comprising at least one field defining a type and number of interaction data to be applied to objects of said scene and said node specifying an association between said digital signals of user interactions and the scene objects (see para. 0108, Fig. 2, Haskell),

wherein the at least one field defines at least one action to be applied to the scene with a parameter field, the value of which corresponds to a variable of said digital signals received from the peripheral command device (see para. 0108, Haskell).

Haskell does not explicitly indicates claimed variable digital signals.

Boon teaches claimed variable digital signals (an information source encoder 20a which subjects the digital image signal (rectangle image signal) St to information source coding, and a variable-length encoder 20b which subjects the output from the encoder 20a to variable-length coding to generate a coded image signal (coded pixel value signal) Et. The image decoding apparatus 25 comprises a variable-length decoder 25b

which subjects the coded image signal Et to variable-length decoding, and an information source decoder 25a which subjects the output from the decoder 25b to information source decoding to generate a decoded image signal (decoded pixel value signal) Dt, see col. 2, lines 14-24, Boon).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the multimedia art at the time of the preset invention to modify the teachings of the cited references because variable digital signals of Boon's teaching would have allowed Haskell's system the binary image signal, the shape signal is subjected to a first coding process and, in the coding process, an image identifier having a first value is generated, thereby creating a coded binary signal including the image identifier as suggested by Boon at col. 7, lines 61-65.

As to claim 16,

Haskell teaches transferring said first digital sequence into a composition memory using a decoding sequence of MPEG-4 systems to introduce the interaction data into a composition device for composing said scene (see paras. 0108, 0066, Haskell).

As to claim 17,

Haskell teaches wherein transferring is performed under control of a flow comprising at least one flow descriptor, itself transporting information required for configuration of the decoding sequence with an appropriate decoder (see paras. 0064, 0064, Haskell).

As to claim 18,

Haskell teaches wherein the BIFS node comprises a number of variable fields dependent on the form of peripheral command device (see para. 0108, Haskell), and transferring the interaction data of fields of the node to fields of objects of said scene is implemented by routes (see para. 0068, Haskell).

As to claim 19,

Haskell teaches comprising signalizing activity of the device (see para. 0037, Haskell).

As to claim 20,

Haskell teaches wherein said BIFS node comprises a flag whose status enables or prevents an interaction to be taken into account (see para. 0038, Haskell).

As to claim 21,

Haskell teaches wherein signal delivery is performed in the form of a flow indicated by a descriptor which contains information for configuring a decoding sequence with an appropriate decoder (see para. 0046, Haskell).

As to claim 22,

Haskell teaches wherein constructing the interaction data sequence is performed in a decoding buffer memory of a multimedia application execution terminal (see paras. 0035, 0038, Haskell).

As to claim 23,

Haskell teaches wherein translation of the interaction data sequence is performed in a decoder equipped with an interface with a composition device for

composing said scene similar to an ordinary BIFS decoder for executing the BIFS-Commands decoded on the scene (see para. 0033, Haskell).

As to claim 24,

Haskell teaches wherein flow of user interactions passes through a DMIF client associated with the device that generates access units to be placed in a decoding buffer memory linked to a corresponding decoder (see para. 0035 Haskell).

As to claim 25,

Haskell teaches wherein flow of user interactions enters into a corresponding decoder, either directly, or via an associated decoding buffer memory, thereby shortening the path taken by the user interaction flow (see paras. 0053, 0063, Haskell).

Claims 26-30 have the same subject matter as of claims 15-25 except calculator that executes a multimedia application and Haskell teaches at para. 0041 and essentially rejected for the same reasons as discussed above.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohammad Ali whose telephone number is (571) 272-4105. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (7:30 am-6:00 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain T. Alam can be reached on (571) 272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Mohammad Ali
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2166

4/6/07